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APRIL EDITION OF CATAWBA COMMUNITIES COVERS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN, BACKPACK PROGRAM, FARMING SUPPORT PLAN, TEEN LEADERSHIP NEWTON

The April edition of “Catawba Communities,” a monthly show featuring information about programs and services provided by local governments, school systems and associated agencies across Catawba County, is now airing on Charter Communications’ Government Channel (Channel 3), and will air throughout the month on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m.

This month’s program focuses on the upcoming International Film Festival For Children, Catawba County Backpack Program, a Farm and Agriculture Sustainability Plan currently being created by citizens and officials across the county with expertise in those areas and Teen Leadership Newton

“Catawba Communities” brings information to the public about what governments and related agencies are doing, the various things that create the quality of life in these communities, and upcoming events. Partners include the City of Claremont, City of Conover, City of Hickory, Town of Maiden, City of Newton, Catawba County, Catawba County Schools, Hickory Public Schools, Newton-Conover City Schools, Catawba Valley Community College, Catawba County Economic Development Corporation, and Greater Hickory Convention and Visitor’s Bureau.

Highlights of the April show include:

- A preview of the International Film Festival For Children to be held on Saturday, May 11 at the SALT Block Auditorium in Hickory, with Hani Nassar, Chair of the Hickory International Council.
- A report on the opening of the Claremont Tailgate Market on Friday, April 26 after which it will be open Fridays from 3- 6 p.m. and on Claremont’s Citywide Yard Sale and Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, May 4.
- The Backpack Program, a partnership of Eastern Catawba County Cooperative Christian Ministries, BB&T, MDI and several area churches with Catawba County Social Services, designed to reach families affected by economic distress as an ongoing source of food for students during weekends and extended school breaks.
- A look ahead to A Taste Of Hickory, scheduled for Sunday, May 19 at the Elks Lodge in Hickory.
- An interview with Jeff Carpenter, Director of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension-Catawba Center, on a plan to support and sustain farming and agriculture in Catawba County that’s currently being developed.
- A salute to retiring Claremont Police Chief Gerald Tolbert.
- An overview of the recent Newton Teen Leadership program.
- Details on the Stanford Skate Park Painting Project of the Hickory Youth Council.

“Catawba Communities” airs at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings on Cable Channel 3 in Catawba County. Charter Communications also airs the program at random hours around the clock each day to ensure citizens have ample opportunity to view it. Several of the partner agencies also put the program on their You Tube channels.

For more information about “Catawba Communities”, you may contact the Catawba County Public Information Office at 828-465-8464 or send an e-mail to dave@catawbacountync.gov.